

1Peter 11-05-06b

Let's resume our study now in 1st Peter chapter 3 at the end of verse 18 and we want to find out what happened when Jesus Was put to death in the flesh and made alive in the spirit There's a real interesting Greek Construction here that is formed from three passive Participles The first one is the one that's translated put to death This is an aorist passive participle, and it's if you want to know Thanatophase The only part I want you to listen to is the end O phase the the theta there the Th sound that's the sign of the passive. You know that Thanatos is death Thanato is is to die, but this is Thanatophase and so it's it's passive he Doesn't say he died. It says he was caused to die.

He was made to die. He was the passive Object of death in that sense doesn't mean that he didn't dismiss his spirit But it says he was put to death in the flesh and it doesn't tell us what the subject is It just says he was a Victim of death. He was victimized by death He was caused to die In the flesh on the one hand and there's a very common Both and or either or or not only but also construction in Greek that is made up of two Particles one of them is men and the other is duh We have the particle de dots translated But or now and in a lot of cases when you just have it as the second word in a sentence And it's that whole post positive conjunctive particle thing, but it's done.

It normally means but now It's kind of a contrasting kind of a thing well, this is men MEN and Then duh, so it's like on the one hand on the other hand not only but also this Set in comparison contrast with this that's what the men duh combination does we have one of those here So it says on the one hand put to death in the flesh Now anytime you have a men duh construction There's a really close parallelism between the first element and the second and this is one of the things that helps us Understand this I try not to you know belabor grammar unless it means something Well, it means something here because this on the one hand on the other hand is kind of like the two sides of a of a Seesaw they they sort of need to balance you don't put unlike things in a men duh construction They they can contrast but they need to be a contrast at the same level I can say black on the one hand white on the other I don't say black on the one hand and chartreuse on the other. I it's it's not at the same level Same thing here. So on the one hand put to death in the flesh, and it's this passive participle the second one on the other side of the duh is Is Zoa poiotes So I've got Thanato face Zoa poiotes and they sort of rhyme you got the a face on the end of both of them and that marks them as a Passive participle Zoas Zoe, you know zoe ology study of life and that kind of thing Zoe is life.

So you've got Thanatophase on one side men But and that's in the sarky by the way sarks but Zoa poiotes toy pneumatō Now if he was trying to say made alive by the Holy Spirit In my humble opinion and I Haven't written any Greek grammars. Nobody appeals to me and calls me up and says hey, could you please help me understand this Greek? but in my Opinion if this if Peter wanted to say he was made alive by the Holy Spirit a He would not have used men duh because

it's looking at the corporeal Existence of Jesus Christ Jesus Christ was put to death in the sarks made alive in the pneumatika the pneuma So when you're looking at somebody's existence if you're put to death in flesh and made alive in the spirit You've got a little bit of a conundrum here because are you going to separate them out? Well, his spirit was killed but his His spirit lived on Well, if that's the case, why does it say made alive? How do you make alive a spirit and we say well He died a physical death and he died a spiritual death and his spirit was brought back first And then three days later his his body was brought back and honestly, although they may not couch it in those terms That's how it is often understood. I think that's probably how I understood it years ago He's traveling along at birth in Bethlehem.

You got a soul in them You got a spirit in a body soul and body spirit and soul by the way Are very difficult to distinguish in some passages, so I don't try you got your Immaterial and your material wedded together. Let's say you get your spirit your body. He goes together.

Here's the cross Father into thy hands I commit my spirit Spirit goes to the hands of the father body dies soldier comes up. He's already dead So then I think people think well his spirit With is somehow in God's hands or is now free to roam about the cabin and Well, I mean, you know to go preach to this I don't mean to be disrespectful to go preach to the spirits or whatever to be in the presence of God. Let's say Just free to go where it wants to go, but his body would stay in the in the tomb So the spirit is is going around here that father my spirit is leaving now, you know Catch me when I leave sort of a thing and then the body dies and then three days later The body is made alive, but that's not what the Bible says and it's not what this passage says It says he was put to death in flesh and he was made alive in spirit And this is not in with the partisan with the preposition.

This is the the dative locative instrumental form of the word spirit you know, you've got your general going all that but anyway, it's it's a it's a it's a Locative or possibly a dative but it's a reference to to hit to the spirit or spirit realm What I would submit to you is this to cut it short and I've agonized and grieved over this but this is what I think Jesus came and lived in the flesh He was subject to the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune in the flesh Just like the rest of us are he was subject to all kinds of temptations like as we are yet without sin And then he died here and He was made alive in spirit Not disembodied spirit, but when he came back it wasn't he wasn't the same as when he left was he this is a new Jesus This is the resurrected Lord. This is the walk through walls appear and disappear at will Lord. This is the prototype or archetype resurrection body that we will all someday be Will will define us and will be us and he's the first he is the firstfruits of them that sleep now If he's the firstfruits of them that sleep, how can he be firstfruits if he didn't sleep, right? He doesn't say he's the firstfruits and he'll get all them that sleep.

He is the firstfruits of them that sleep and the more you think about it and the more you Go through the passages that deal with the death of the Lord Jesus in the Bible the more Convinced you will be that That we're on to the facts of the matter here Made alive in spirit if you're made

alive in spirit, that means you weren't alive in spirit before this is a new thing Jesus was a new thing at his birth He was the God-man the hypostatic Union and he lived that way in the flesh God made flesh the word made flesh and dwelt among Us the word made sarks Dwelt among us then that ended he's not the word made flesh Anymore, not that flesh that flesh died Caused to die in sarks, but made alive in spirit now He is the first of the resurrection brigade. He is the first of the resurrection body enhanced existence human He's the first one Made alive in spirit. So we try to We're so scientific, you know, we want a word to mean a thing and we want to have a technical definition and and we try to put ancient and 2,000 year old Middle Eastern thinking into modern Latinized boxes and we want stuff to to be real simple and real You know one-ply thinking I can just grab that I know what it means.

Well made alive in the spirit He's he has been made alive. It's it's in the same way that we Have a new birth at salvation Jesus in a sense had a new birth when he was resurrected. It is a new life He is made alive.

He wasn't alive this way before So this is not like a continuously existing part of Jesus that just kind of survived and and and rose above the death Kind of coasted at an altitude over the cross and and landed in the resurrection body and never really was affected or touched Jesus died and I Thought Brian made a good point during the break that if you think about that for a minute at what the crucifixion cost God the Father You go back and visit Abraham on the mountain with Isaac raising the knife and Just about the time you think that John 3 16 is an old hackneyed verse For God so loved the world that he gave his son if the Lord Jesus Christ Was dead and gone separated from the Father not present Eternally coexisting in ways we can't even begin to comprehend and he's gone for those three days and you think about God the Father contemplating giving his son putting his son through death and being absent for three whole days it this is why God does things in in human history and and in biblical history is to Reveal himself to all of his creation you think about the angels in heaven who have been observing God God the Father forever They know the throne. They know the cherubim and the glowing coals and the stones of fire and all the rest of it But have they ever seen God bereft willingly sacrificing himself his own son for these Smaller less capable less significant creatures made lower than the angels Why would God do that and the angels in heaven who have been watching God for Some thing approaching time that we can't even comprehend are learning something about God You can understand why angels would want to watch what God is doing in human history because this is like nothing They have ever seen the Lord Jesus Christ when we say he died on the cross He didn't kind of Pop out of one body and float for a while and pop into another that's not death And how could he be made alive in spirit this Inspired scripture Peter talked earlier men spoke as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit He's doing the same thing and this is what the inspired scripture says Jesus died and when you're dead You don't pay calls. You don't visit you don't entertain You don't travel You're gone and Jesus Christ as near as I can tell from every scripture.

I've been able to find was gone Absent for those three days and three nights and He was then

made alive and now you think about the resurrection you want to talk about a glorious event and the two glowing messengers He is risen What's the big deal? He's risen if he's been kind of floating around. He's happened to pop back with another body The angels are excited because Jesus Christ is risen and you can begin to just touch the hem of the garment of the the magnitude of what God did with sacrificing Christ on the cross when we when we Try to wrap our minds around the enormity of the second person of the Trinity dying and that's what he did That that song amazing love comes to mind if you remember the lyrics to that that How can it be that thou my God should die for me? Not just experience a little discomfort and float and come back, but die for me That's what Peter's referring to here now Here's my question Aside and apart from all that and believe me feel free if you want to just Lash yourself to the mass to the traditional view and you know, I believe Jesus went pretty good bless you. Go ahead I'm I'm just saying this is how it looks to me but This is what we all should try to wrap our minds around has has Peter just taken a weird left turn here I thought we were talking about being a diaspora Jew and and suffering in a hostile world and and being submissive and looking to the Hope that is before us and being ready to give an answer and that lifestyle evangelism and all that I thought we were talking about that.

How did we end up with Jesus preaching to spirits? In some time Circumstantially near his death Why would Peter even bring this up? Well, let me suggest an answer to that question if we read this through By which he went and preached to spirits in prison who formerly were disobedient When the patience of God waited in the days of Noah the divine long-suffering waited while the ark was being prepared. Okay What do I know about spirits and the ark being prepared in the days of Noah This is pre-flood. What was going on? I go back to Genesis 6 and in a nutshell We've gone into horrendous detail on this.

So I'm just going to tell you my Understanding of it is that in the post garden pre-flood civilization Man is out here trying to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow and it's kind of a mess They have no prototypes, they've got no Constitution. They've got no guiding principles They got no history to look at and say well, we don't want to do what those guys did They just they just have nothing. So what does God do God provides even though man has sinned and he's scattered himself out God says I'll give you some provision.

So there are the Spirits of God who are sent down to judge. This is I think it's verse 6 where in the English it says My spirit will not strive with man for that. Also.

He is flesh. Nevertheless his days shall be 120 years but when you Do your best to straighten the Hebrew out in that the word there is strive is Dan or Dean which is judge And I think it has been tampered with by the scribes who couldn't figure out what was being said I think originally spirit was plural My spirits will not judge man forever In the because this flesh thing is becoming a problem and in Greek by the way in the Septuagint that comes across as Sark's These spirits are not handling this assignment where they came in the flesh and they are supposed to be providing government providing guidance adjudicating disputes Implementing the Word of God in the

absence of a written word in the absence of a prophetic tradition in the absence of any Covenant record from Sinai or anywhere else God's spirits are down here governing My spirits will not judge man forever. I'm not going to keep this up.

This is not going well I'm gonna do it another 120 years and then we're gonna do something different and that's how long Noah's got to finish the ark and Then you have the flood. So that's my take on that So these are those spirits when the patience of God waited God said I'm ready I'm fed up with this thing now But I'm gonna give it 120 years so that Noah can get the ark built so that the word can get out anybody who wants to be saved can be saved through the waters and Whatever else God had going on with those spirits now How many different kinds of angels are there? Two kinds are real easy. You got your unfallen angels Some people call them elect which I think is kind of a Calvinist thing to do the elect angels Does the Bible actually say that anywhere elect angels anyway, that's what a lot of people call them, but they're unfallen Gabriel Michael, you know, you're you're panoply of faithful servants of God spirits flames of fire The cherubim and so on the the angels of the four winds and those others in Revelation that are doing God's bidding unfallen angels Then you got your fallen angel Satan and the third of the stars that his tail Wipes out of heaven the demons the the nerdy wells that Jesus talks to as Legion and so on There is a third category of angels that are neither Pure nor Damned remember the lake of fire has been prepared for the devil and his angels This is why in Job it says even the stars are not pure in his sight They're still stars, but they're not pure.

There are some angels who are not fallen in the sense of Satan and his Demons, but they are not pure either These angels malfunctioned in this day These are the ones who got kind of wrapped up in the details of life and decided to take wives When you take a wife in the ancient Near East, this is a transaction. It's not a love match It's not Oh, honey. Let's run off.

Come with me to the Kaaba. This is a transaction the father There is a dowry exchange the I will let you have my daughter you give me some stuff Right, that's that's how the marriage transaction works So when it says they took it doesn't say they took women that they chose it says they took wives Which means there was a marital transaction with the father. So these judges are brokering influence for women That's The name of that tune now These angels are not rebelling against God They are not joining up with Satan saying I would rather be like the Most High I would rather get out of heaven go away God I'm tired of you.

They messed up in a totally different way. They were disobedient God gave him a mission fouled up the mission how you know angelic salvation I'm not prepared to talk about all I will say is this these angels have been removed from the scene They are neither in heaven nor are they consigned to this fate of Satan and the demons they're off in a waiting room probably poorly lit and They're just waiting God says you're this is the sort of the penalty box. You can't be involved anymore You're not going to be one of those angels who stoops and looks in and and that's what this when it says imprisoned This Fulake a word in Greek can also mean refuge But it's a

sequestered area.

It reminds me of our English word security is security a Good thing or not. Well, it depends on which side of it you're on. I Would like security.

I would like my premises secure I would like my person secure, but if I walk in and somebody says call security, I don't say oh boy You know Security now is not a good thing because I am somehow on the wrong side of that of that thing It's the same thing with Fulake. Fulake can mean to take refuge in a thing To be in a place that is walled off and not accessible Which of course qualifies as as prison as well But these wherever these spirits are they are in Sequestration they are in they are in Separation they have been put into a well, you know, how often can you work that word into conversation? so they're in a place by themselves, so These spirits were formerly disobedient a disobedient. This doesn't say rebellious.

This doesn't say they are consigned to the lake of fire their disobedient spirits and Listen this to me is a great thing. You know this sort of bar relief Heavenly future that's painted for you in Sunday school that well when Jesus comes back We're gonna walk the streets of gold and you know There'll be harp music playing softly in the background and it's just gonna everything's gonna be gold and everything's gonna be great And I think you know people are horrified by that. They say what are we going to do? I mean, you know, maybe a year and a half or maybe I've you know, ten years or so But I mean, there's only so many golden streets, you know stuff can wear thin stuff can be kind of can get kind of De rigueur it can get sort of normal after a while.

They think well, okay pearly gate Golden Street the angel flying by that's great But what are we going to do? But if you look at the history of the plan of God God is active God has always had the angels involved they do stuff and the great thing is these angels did stuff They messed up and they're not destroyed. They're not headed for the lake of fire I've always thought you know, there's only two possible futures for me I go into the eternal future realms of glory and either I don't mess up or I do right Now is volition is will truly free or not? I think oh, I can't wait to get glory because I'll never make a mistake I'll never sin. Well, why why wouldn't I? If I have free will now and I can choose to sin Why wouldn't I pull a Satan, you know a couple of million years into the future get bored one day think a sinful thought You know, I don't know what happens some kind of like the prisoner, you know Big white ball come and take me off out of out of the out of the heavenly realms But only two things can be true either God straps down our volition so that we cannot choose to sin can't have any undue creativity of thought that might make a mistake or If our will is truly free then that potential might always be there, right? I mean only one of two things can be true if my will is truly free Adam was in perfect environment perfect from the hand of God God saw that it was good and he messed up What's to keep all of those saved multitudes from doing that in the eternal future? Why wouldn't we? Angels in the realms of glory a third of them chose negative and was there some flaw in heaven? Was there some you know sin that went floating in? No, Satan made an act of will and a third of the angels said I like that idea and they went with him and rebelled So if that can happen in the perfection of glory in the past, why

wouldn't it happen in the future? Well, I have two answers to that a this is why we're living in this life This is why we don't get zapped to heaven as soon as we dear Lord Jesus.

I believe in you. I'm in heaven I no longer why stay on the earth right here. I'm saved Why is our salvation delayed because we are here getting inoculated we are going to be so sick of The effects of being separated from God and of sin and of suffering and of the degradation and the suffering and the misery that is caused by sin I Ate a green pepper once when I was young.

I will never eat one of those things again as long as I live I hate green peppers, and I don't need to eat another one to know how much I hate him. I am Permanently and eternally inoculated against green peppers You and I are permanently being inoculated against sin We know what it is like to suffer we have seen the horror people say how can God let this suffering? I'll tell you why the same reason a woman can let her child get a great big two-inch needle in his gluteus maximus When he doesn't understand why it's good for him. It will help him later He'll get over the momentary pain and he'll be inoculated forever We are being inoculated against sin now and none of us are and the great thing is God won't have to strap our volition down Because as soon as we start thinking well, you know I wonder if what would be like if my throne was ascended up even with God I wonder if I could be above the stars.

I wonder if I could you know oh Wait I remember that's been tried I remember the results the last time somebody had that brilliant thought and We won't and what a great thing that God leaves our volition totally free But he has given us the information given us the experience so that we'll know better and only people who prefer Life with God are going to be there and everybody else will not These but the great thing is when we are doing things in the eternal future and God's got plans and there's going to be all kinds of activities that are going on we'll be looking at the past and we'll be learning it as we build into the Kingdom of the Father in the future and and there's things that that I hasn't seen here hasn't heard hasn't entered into the heart of Man that God has prepared for those who love him and it's not a freeze It's not a mobile with a bunch of little brass angels with trumpets. We're going to be doing things and we're going to be Making decisions and maybe taking a chance here and there and trying some stuff out Well, what if we kind of mess up and we didn't rebel against God? We love God We appreciate Christ, but we're out here trying to do the will of God and we just kind of do a misinformed thing this is why I think in Revelation it says that the Leaves of the tree of life come out of the New Jerusalem and are for the healing of the nations Why would there be healing in an eternal perfect future if somebody didn't break something? Something got broken Here's some leaves from the tree of life God's life We will grow and sometimes the best way you grow is by kind of trying a thing and you were well-intentioned One of our famous naval sayings from Navy from John Paul Jones was that a good naval officer should be able to distinguish the difference between well-meant shortcoming and a heedless stupid blunder You ought to be able to tell when you've got a good man that made an honest Try and and fell short and messed up versus somebody that is just Worthless and and needs to be gotten out You need to be able to tell the difference God can tell the difference and so these

angels messed up And I think they were well-intentioned But they got led astray a bunch of gorgeous women running around that they got wrapped up in the in the moment in the earthly life forgot their heavenly Commission and They're not consigned to the lake of fire And so when the Lord Jesus won his victory on the cross and after by the way his resurrection you remember the 40 days between the resurrection and the Ascension ample time or after the Ascension and We'll see in the passage here that what the implication is that it's after the Ascension that he goes and preaches to these Spirits, but again left turn. Why did Peter even bring this up? What has this got to do with the price of tea and Pontus with these these diaspora people, why would they care think about it? Jesus came and suffered the just for the unjust and that is our example And he says the The long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah while the ark was being prepared and there were a few who were Delivered and he says then Jesus went and preached to those spirits and And they are going to get the witness Well, what have we been talking about you go through a bad time? you suffer and because of that you Have a testimony Jesus goes to these spirits and gives them that testimony they Didn't persevere under pressure they messed up But Jesus says look it can be done.

I went amongst the humans in the flesh and Paid for their sins and accomplished the will of the Father so next time God the Father gives you a mission Look to the example it can be done This is sort of a rebuke This is a that Jesus is giving them the example the same way Peter is giving us the example And it is a healing it is a restoration It is a teaching point God is making a teaching point in their failure and what a wonderful thing because some of these Jews in the diaspora have had failures and The message of the example of Christ they don't throw up their hands and say well, it's too late for me I've already messed up. So, you know, what's the point in trying? Even these spirits that messed up in the days of Noah when God's patience was waiting Christ went to them and took them this message that it is possible to do it So pick yourself up and let's get back with the program and to me it at least suggests that there is great potential It's another aspect another facet of God's plan. He's not just Well, you're either in the eternal realms of glory right up there next to my throne or you're in the pit of hell Flames and fire for all eternity There's a lot of intermediate ground where we can trust our father who loves us who will forgive us when we fail and who is interested in restoring us and Using our failures as a teaching point, that's why we're here We mess up all the time God forgives us constantly the blood of Christ cleanses us and we pick up and move on Why would it not be true for the angels? And I know there's all kind of forensics about well, but did Jesus become an angel and die for them? I don't know the mechanics I just know what God is like and how he reveals himself in Scripture and God is a compassionate God What did Peter say up here be of one mind having compassion for one another love as brothers be tender-hearted be Considerate Well, why would God be this great? Black and white it's all or nothing perfection or damnation God if he's encouraging us to be compassionate is he compassionate toward his own creation and yes, he is and here is an example, why would Peter bring up these angels because they messed up and Yet the Lord Jesus after his suffering went and Preached the good news you Anga leads.

Oh to these sequestered spirits But it comes to Peter's mind because of this water thing He says, you know, there were those who were delivered but not many but they were delivered through water And he says you all have been sort of delivered by water So baptism, it's a type antitype. It's a type to pass in Greek The soul safety water. There's an any type which now saves us baptism Not the removal of filth from the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God.

Why did Noah and his family? survive the flood Because it was a really good arc design Because they had ample warning because the pitch held in the seams What is the true reason that they were delivered? Noah was an upright man He was faithful in his generation. It's his faith that God honored and These this is the answer of a good conscience toward God and How much more disposed are we to answer God with from a good conscience when we see what a wonderful and compassionate God he is and these who have been baptized into the Christian faith baptism, particularly for the Jewish Christians of the first century was a Step away from in the same way that baptism was a right of initiation into Judaism in that day Well, they are baptized out of Judaism and into Christianity and He says that baptism that leaving the old and coming into the new that's what Jesus did and he's offering that opportunity to these Angels who messed up in the old but have a chance in the new you Jews Are coming from the old and you've got a chance in the new that baptism that you engaged in that was your answer that was your good conscience answering toward God just like Noah answered when he when he built the ark and trusted God to preserve him and So all of these have this common thread that runs through and It says that through the resurrection of Jesus Christ who has gone into heaven and is that the right by the way? This is the only place in Scripture That says Jesus went to heaven It's one of the few places in Scripture where anybody goes to heaven But this says Jesus went to heaven It's the only place in the New Testament that says Jesus went it says he ascended out of their sight It says you see it at the right hand. This is the only place that says Declaratively Jesus went to heaven And is that the right hand of God notice angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to him Why angels and authorities and powers because that's who he's talking about in those preceding couple of verses these angels and authorities and powers malfunctioned they disobeyed but this was not a sin unto death as it were and Jesus delivered good news to them that look at what God the Father has done for the fallen human race What do you think? All is not lost and we don't know the details It's going to be really interesting to find out but those angels who disobeyed in the days of Noah are not As near as I can tell consigned to the lake of fire doesn't say Jesus went to Satan and you Angolese owed him or went to the demons who went to thee this particular group they messed up But they they didn't rebel against God, so it's good news for them well We'll do a bit of review next week, but when we get into chapter 4 there is a word in chapter 4 verse 1 that Will knock your hat in the creek it one word in that verse ties together Everything that we've seen in the last chapter and a half in this letter one word I could do a series for a month on this one word that's coming up and so with that Clue will will close for tonight in a word of prayer father thank you for the truth of your word, thank you for the picture the revelation that it gives us the insight into who you are and the magnitude of what you have done for us in sending the Lord

Jesus to die on our behalf to Save us from a lost and hopeless condition and not only to rescue us, but to Enter us into a life of such potential and such a Thrilling future that we can hardly even begin to comprehend it.

We thank you for your daily graces We thank you for your provision and your protection And we pray that as we go forward that God the Holy Spirit will impress these things on our hearts remind us of our Community and our opportunity because of the Lord Jesus to live a life that has a great meaning and value both now And in the ages to come we pray these things in Jesus name.
Amen